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ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 HA-05 IO-14 DOT-02 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /090 ab

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5417
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
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AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PN
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 KINGSTON 7835

USCINCSO FOR INTAFF

E.O. 12065: GDS 10/22/86 (FORBES, JOHN D.) OR-P
TAGS: PINS, PINT, JM
SUBJECT: POLITICAL SITREP NO. 3

1. C-ENTIRE TEXT.

2. VIOLENCE:
-- MEMBERS OF THE FUNERAL PROCESSION FOR THE DRIVER OF THE PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY (PNP) CANDIDATE FOR CENTRAL CLARENDON, WHO WAS KILLED BY JLP SUPPORTERS LAST WEEK, STABBED TO DEATH A MAN WHO ALLEGEDLY APPROACHED THEM WITH A KNIFE AND MACHETE.
-- ONE MAN WAS SHOT AND KILLED IN WEST RURAL ST. ANDREW WHEN FIVE MEN OPENED FIRE ON A GROUP OF PEOPLE. TWO OTHERS WERE WOUNDED.
-- A MAN WANTED BY THE POLICE FOR ROBBERY AND POSSESSION OF A FIREARM WAS MAULED TO DEATH BY A CROWD DURING A ROBBERY ATTEMPT IN THE COCKPIT COUNTRY OF CENTRAL JAMAICA.
-- THE BODY OF MAN KILLED BY GUNSHOTS WAS FOUND IN WEST CENTRAL ST. ANDREW ON TUESDAY WITH THE TAG "KILLED FOR GIVING INFORMATION REGARDING THE RECOVERY OF AN M-1 ENFORCER". (THIS WEAPON IS GENERALLY BELIEVED TO BE IN THE JLP ARSENAL.)
-- A 16-YEAR-OLD GIRL WAS SHOT THROUGH THE HAND ON MONDAY IN MONTEGO BAY, ALLEGEDLY BY A MAN SHE HAD AN ALTERCATION WITH WHILE HE PUT UP POLITICAL POSTERS. ALSO IN MONTEGO BAY, A 14-YEAR-OLD BOY WAS WOUNDED WHEN GUNMEN FIRED AT A GROUP.
-- SECURITY FORCES KILLED AN UNIDENTIFIED MAN IN ST. CATHERINE AND RECOVERED A HOMEMADE GUN.
-- ON MONDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 28, THE CONSTITUENCY OFFICE OF JLP MP DOUGLAS VAZ, NORTH CENTRAL ST. ANDREW, WAS ATTACKED BY GUNMEN FIRING FROM A CAR. FIVE MEN WERE WOUNDED, TWO VERY SERIOUSLY. THIS IS THE THIRD ATTACK ON THE VAZ OFFICE IN SIXTEEN DAYS.
-- ON THE SPANISH TOWN ROAD TUESDAY MORNING, GUNMENT DRESSED IN DENIM OUTFITS RESEMBLING SOLDIERS'S UNIFORMS WOUNDED FIVE PERSONS WITH HIGH-POWERED RIFLES.
-- SECURITY FORCES KILLED TWO MEN, PART OF A GROUP OF EIGHT, WHO OPENED FIRE AT A JOINT POLICE/MILITARY PARTOL DURING A TOUR BY OPPOSITION LEADER SEAGA IN ST. CATHERINE PARISH. AN M-1 ENFORCER WAS RECOVERED. A CBC TELEVISION CREW FILMED THE ACTION.
-- A BUILDING IN THE HOTLY-CONTESTED WESTERN ST. ANDREW CONSTITUENCY, WHICH WAS TO HOUSE THREE POLLING STATIONS FOR THE ELECTIONS, WAS RAZED BY FIRE ON TUESDAY MORNING. THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS SAID THE LOSS OF THE BUILDING WILL ADD TO THE PROBLEM OF LOCATING POLLING STATIONS. OWNERS OF SOME BUILDINGS HAVE RESCINDED THEIR AGREEMENT TO HOUSE POLLING STATIONS BECAUSE OF FEAR OF VIOLENCE, HE ADDED.

2. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS:
-- JLP, PNP AND POLICE ACCOUNTS DIFFER ON THE EVENTS LEADING TO THE OCTOBER 20 DEATH OF TWO CHILDREN IN ST. ELIZABETH, REPORTED IN SITREP NO. 2. THE JLP CANDIDATE FOR SOUTH EAST ST. ELIZABETH, CECIL JULY (WHO IS CURRENTLY HOSPITALIZED FOR INJURIES RECEIVED IN THE INCIDENT), CLAIMS THAT PNP SUPPORTERS LED BY PRIMIN MANLEY CAME AFTER HIM WHILE HE WAS SITTING ON THE PORCH OF THE HOUSE WHERE THE CHILDREN WERE KILLED. HE HEARD SOMEONE SHOUT, " THERE'S JULY, GET HIM." AND GUNS WERE FIRED. HE FLED TO ANOTHER HOUSE. ENROUTE, HE WAS STONED AND BEATEN BY OTHER PNP SUPPORTERS. HE SAID THE OFFICIAL POLICE INFORMATION CENTER (PIC) REPORT CONTRADICTED THE ORIGINAL REPORT BY THE LOCAL POLICE OFFICIALS. THE PIC STATEMENT SAID THAT JULY AND HIS SUPPORTERS STOPPED PNP ACTIVISTS RETURNING FROM A MEETING WITH PRIMIN MANLEY, HAVING PREVIOUSLY TRIED TO PREVENT THEIR PASSING THROUGH THE AREA, AND A CLASH ENSUED. THE JLP PEOPLE SOUGHT REFUGE IN THE HOUSE WHERE THE CHILDREN WERE AND BEGAN FIRING AT THE PNP CROWD. POLICE WERE MET WITH GUNFIRE FROM THE HOUSE WHEN THEY ARRIVED AND RETURNED THE FIRE. IN HIS STATEMENT, PRIMIN MANELY CLAIMED THAT THE CHILDREN WERE HIT WITH WHAT APPEARED TO BE SHOTGUN PELLETS AND THAT THEIR BODIES WERE FOUND IN BUSHES, NOT IN THE HOUSE AS THE POLICE REPORT INDICATES. MANLEY HELD THAT " THE JAMAICA LABORPARTY AND ITS CANDIDATE MR. JULY ARE VERY SERIOUSLY AND GRAVELY RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT HAS TAKEN PLACE."
-- OPPOSITION LEADER SEAGA, ADDRESSING AN OCTOBER 19 MEETING OF THE BUSTAMANTE INDUSTRIAL TRADE UNION (BITU) PREDICTED THAT HIS PARTY WILL WIN A MINIMUM OF 48 SEATS ON OCTOBER 30, BARRING CHICANERY BY THE PNP ON ELECTION DAY OR THE POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTIONS BECAUSE OF VIOLENCE.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [redacted] DATE 25 JUN 1982
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-- JLP GENERAL SECRETARY BRUCE GOLDING HAS ALLEGED THAT CUBAN AMBASSADOR ULISES ESTRADA WAS PLANNING TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY ON OCTOBER 28. ALLUDING TO SEAGA'S OCTOBER 13 STATEMEN THAT ESTRADA WOULD BE GIVEN HIS "MARCHING ORDERS" WHEN THE JLP WINS OCTOBER 30, GOLDING ADDED THAT BY LEAVING ON THE 28TH HE WILL AVOID BEING PUT ON A PLANE AND TOLD, "LEAVE THIS COUNTRY MY FRIEND NEVER TO RETURN" A CUBAN EMBASSY SPOKESMAN DENIED THE TRAVEL PLANS AND SAID THAT "MR GOLDING ISGOING TO HAVE TO GET ACCUSTOMED TO MR ESTRADA LIVING IN JAMAICA". MEANWHILE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND PLANNING HUGH SHALL ANNOUNCED THAT CUBAN DOCTORS HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN FROM TWO HOSPITALS IN CLARENDON PARISH FOLLOWING THREARS AND ATTACKS AGAINST THEM. THE THREATS ALLEGEDLY INCLUDE PROVOCATIVE BEHAVIOR BY JLP CANDIDATE FOR CENTRAL CLARENDON, MIKE HENRY, AND ALSO INCLUDE A THREAT BY A PERSON WHO WAS ARMED WITH A SUBMACHINE GUN.

-- THE JAMAICA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (JCC) POLICIAL MONITORING COMMITTEE SAID THAT JLP VANDIATED FOR EAST CENTRAL ST ANDREW LESLIE LLOYD HAD REFFERED TO PRIMIN MANLEY, D.K. DUNCAN AND THE LATE MP ROYMCGANN IN A MANNER WHICY MAY BE INTERPRETED AS THRWATENING AND THAT "THIS IS A BLATANT VIOLATION OF THE CHURCH'S GUIDELINES FOR A PEACEFUL ELECTION". THE COMMITTEE ALSO REPORTED THAT LLOYD'S OPPONENT, D.K. OUNCAN HAD WRITTEN TO COMPLAIN THAT LLOYD HAD BEEN INVOLOVED IN INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE IN THE CONSTITUENCY, BUT THAT LLOYD HAD NOT RESPONDED TO THE COMMITTEE'S REQUEST FOR A COMMENT.

-- THREE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES PROFERROS WHO CONDUCTED THE RECENT JBC DAILY NEWS POLL (SEE SITREP NO 2) APPEARED ON A JAMCIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATIONS INTERVIEW PROGRAM TO DISUCSS THEIR FINDINGS. PROFESSOR DEREK GORDON USING THE POLL DATA AND OTHER SOURCES. PREDICTED THAT THE PNP WOULD WIN 37 TO 23 FOR THE JLP. THE JBC POLL IS WIDELY AT VARIANCE WITH THE LAST CARL STONE POLL, ESPESIALLY IN THE HEAVILY POPULATED PARISHES OF CLARENDON AND ST CATHERINE, WHICH HAVE 13 SEATS AND WHICH STONE GIVES TO THE OPPOSITION PARTY BY A WIDE MARGIN.

-- IN AN OCTOBER 18 SPEECH AT A JLP RALLY IN PORT ANTONIO, PARTY LEADER EDWARD SEAGA REITERATED CHARGES THAT CUBAN TRAINED JAMAICANS WOULD BE USED BY THE PNP TO STIMULATE A LEVEL OF VIOLENCE SUFFICIENT TO JUSTIFY A POST PONEMENT OF THE ELECTIONS. SEAGA ALEGED THAT 47 "BRIGADISTAS" HAD LEFT JAMAICA LAST WEEK FOR ONE WEEK OF TRAINING IN CUBA AND THAT ON OCTOBER 3 SOME 35 "BRIGADISTAS" RETURNED TO CUBA AFTER THREE WEEKS TRAINING IN CUBA.

-- EVIDENCE OF INCREASING LOCAL PARANOIA IS FOUND IN A PHONE CALL TO THE AMBASSADOR ON OCTOBER 22 FROM [redacted] b(1) ED

[redacted] SHE SAID HAS BEEN INFORMED BY [redacted] WHO PRESENTLY IS VISITH G MIAMI. b(1) RD

THAT HE HA HEARD THAT LARGE NUMBERS OF CUBAN TROOPS ARE MASSING ON THE SOUTH COAST OF CUBA. SHE ADDED THAT SHE HAD RECEIVED THE SAME INFORMATION FROM THE REVEREND [redacted] ONE OF KINGSTON, LEADING CHURCHMENT. b (1) ED

-- IN A PRESS RELEASE, THE PNP YOUTH ORGANIZATION (PNPYO) CLAIMS TO HAVE REPORTED TO WHOM IS UNSPECIFIED THE FINING OF AN M-16 ALONG WITH THREE M-1S MORE THAN TWO WEEKS AGO AND ASKS WHY THE SECURITY FORCES ONLY RELEASED THE INFORMATON ON SATURDAY OCTODER 18 THE PNPYO STATEMENT ALSO SAYS THAT THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT PUBLICITY CONCERNING THE RECOVERY OF THE M-16 BECAUSE IT WAS FOUND IN WESTERN KINGSTON, THE CONSTITUENCY, REPRESENTED BY LEADER OF THE OPPOSITON SEAGA THE ORGANIZATION THEN POINTS OUT THAT THE SERIAL NUMBER ON THE WEAPON CAN BE TRACED" IF WE CAN RECEIVED THE COOPERATION OF THE US. AUTHORIES".

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-- IN AN ARTICLE IN THE DAILY GLEANER OF OCTOBER 20, UNIVERSITY OF WEST INDIES PROFESSOR CARL STONE REFLECTS ON THE EFFECTS OF THE MCGANN SHOOTING ON THE UPCOMING ELECTIONS, "IF ENOUGHT PEACE PREVAILS IN THIS COUNTRY TO PERMIT THE HOLDING OF ELECTIONS ON OCTOBER 30" HE STATES THAT FIVE PEOPLE HAVE DIED IN RETALIATION FOR THE MP'S DEATH, INCLUDING A JLP ACTIVIST WEARING A JOAN GORDON T-SHIRT (THE JLP CANDIDATE IN MCGANN'S CONSTITUENCY OF EAST RURAL ST ANDREW) WHO WAS MAULED TO DEATH. HE ACCUSES PRIMIN MANLEY FOR UNSTATEMAN LIKE CONDUCT IN USRUPING THE FUNCTIONS OF TH LEGAL SYSTEM BY ACTING AS JUDGE JURY, CORONER, AND PROSECTOR IN THE CASE. MOREOVER STONE SAYS, THE PNP IS EXPLOITING MCGANN'S OEATH TO WIN SYMPATHY VOTE AND TO DISCREDIT THE JLP IN THE FINAL DAYS BEFORE THE ELECTIONS. STONE FEELS HOWEVER, THAT THE MCGANN AFFAIR SHOULD HELP THE PNP ONLY IN THE CORPORATE AREA, WHERE ALL POLLS INDICATE IT ALREADY HAS THE LEAD BUT NOT IN OTHER AREAS. INDIRECTLY HOWEVER, THE AFFAIR INTRODUCTES AN ELEMENT OF UNCERTAINLY TO THE OUTCOME OF THE ELECTIONS BY DIRECTING ATTENTION AWAY FROM THE ECONOMIC QUESTIONS WHERE THE GOVERNMENT IS WEAK, AND TOWARDS THE ISSUE OF VIOLENCE WHERE THE PNP THINK IT HAS THE EDGE. HE CONTINUED, HOWEVER, BY POINT ING OUT THAT "THE POLITICAINS HAVE BECOME THE VICTIMS OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES. . AND THE PEOPLE WHO ARE NOW IN CONTROL ARE THE MEN WITH THE GUNS IN THEIR HANDS AND THEIR FINGERS ON THE TRIGGERS. LIKE FRANKEN STEIN, THE MONSTER THEY HAVE CREATED HAS TAKEN ITSELF OUT OF OF THEIR CONTROL"
LAWRENCE

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